

PTO/SB/30 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0851-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number

09/980,283

Filing Date

September 24, 2001

First Named Inventor

TAKEHIKO NAKAI

Group Art Unit

2872

Examiner Name

Leonidas Boutsikaris

Attorney Docket Number

00684.003256

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/28) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114a. Previously submittedi. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____iii. Other _____b. Enclosed

- i. Preliminary Amendment/Reply
- ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. Other _____

2. Miscellaneousa. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(l) required)b. Other _____**3. Fees**

The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies in the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 06-1205i. RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
ii. Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)

August 2004 Ent. date: 08/24/04 PBRITM: 0000000 Other: 09960283

01 FC: 001

b. Check in the amount of \$ 770.00 is enclosed

01/23/2004 10:25:11 AM Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Peter G. Thurlow	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	47,138
Signature	<i>Peter G. Thurlow</i>		
Date	January 20, 2004		

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name (Print/Type)	Peter G. Thurlow	Date	January 20, 2004
Signature	<i>Peter G. Thurlow Reg. No. 47,138</i>		

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Director of the U.S.P.T.O., P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND FEES and Completed Forms to the following address: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO

30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, NY 10112-3801
(212) 218-2100

Faxsimile:(212) 218-2200

FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

TO: Leonidas Boutsikaris
Examiner-U.S. Patents and Trademark Office

FROM: Peter G. Thurlow (Reg. No. 47,138)

RE: U.S. Patent Application No. 09/960,283
Attorney Docket No. 00684.003256.

FAX NO.: 571-273-2308

DATE: January 21, 2004 **NO. OF PAGES:** 11
(including cover page)

TIME: **SENT BY:**

MESSAGE

IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE ALL THE PAGES
PLEASE CALL 212-218-2100 AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

Note: We are transmitting from a Canon Model FAX-L770
(compatible with any Group I, Group II or Group III machine).

THIS FACSIMILE MESSAGE AND ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS ARE INTENDED ONLY FOR THE USE OF THE ADDRESSEE INDICATED ABOVE. INFORMATION THAT IS PRIVILEGED OR OTHERWISE CONFIDENTIAL MAY BE CONTAINED THEREIN. IF YOU ARE NOT THE INTENDED RECIPIENT, YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT ANY DISSEMINATION, REVIEW OR USE OF THIS MESSAGE, DOCUMENTS OR INFORMATION CONTAINED THEREIN IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED. IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS MESSAGE IN ERROR, PLEASE NOTIFY US IMMEDIATELY BY TELEPHONE OR FACSIMILE AND MAIL THE ORIGINAL TO US AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS. THANK YOU.